

NASA Administrator's Message for International Education Week 2009

On behalf of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), I congratulate Secretary Arne Duncan and the U.S. Department of Education and Secretary Hillary Clinton and the U.S. Department of State on their efforts to foster global cooperation and collaboration through the excitement of International Education Week 2009.

The theme for International Education Week 2009, Creating a Vision for a Better Future, echoes NASA's commitment to work toward the common goals of making life better for people here on Earth and improving our understanding of the universe.

NASA is currently partnered with 16 nations to complete the construction of the International Space Station, the most advanced, scientific research platform ever created. The International Space Station is the first step in sending humans back to the moon and to other distant places within our solar system. The space station's role as a national laboratory also makes it a novel resource for education, providing a broad spectrum of ways to engage students - through experiments, hardware development, and in-class application of the data.

Through these endeavors, the international community is working together to employ, educate, engage and inspire the next generation of explorers and innovators.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State and wish you success in this year's efforts.